

church paper, as they were now to be Methodists.

Finally, I attended to this work personally. I no more allowed some indigent woman or aged preacher to do this for me than I invited them to lead the revival for me. When I found such agent (appointed by a predecessor for the revenue he got out of it,) I always relieved him or her, and gave back the commission quadrupled.

This is my "experience." It fills me with joy to recall it. Hallelujah! It was a good work for Christ. There is no patent on the experience. I ask no "royalty" on its use. It would be a good thing if the General Conference would pass a regulation that no person should be appointed a member of the official board who does not take a church paper."

GOD AND MAMMON.

The Word of God emphatically declares that every effort or attempt to serve God and mammon must prove utterly futile. Yet there are those who continually attempt this impossible. The following from the *Methodist Herald* is pertinent as showing the evil effects of such hypocrisy.

"A young man of our acquaintance is not now a regular attendant at Sunday-school. The teacher of the Sunday-school class he once belonged to is known by some to be fond of amusements with gambling features. And so the young man says, 'I am willing either to play a game of pool with Mr. — or to attend his Sunday-school class, but I decline to do both.'"

Personal Mention.

Brother Perry reports one accession at Union Salem, Ind.

Quite a number of students will spend their vacation at home.

We expect Brother Ross, the general agent, home in a few days.

Three accessions at Johnstown, Pa. Two yet to be baptized. Brother E. E. Haskins, Pastor.

Sister Keim of the Boarding Hall, expects to spend her Christmas and New Year at Louisville, Ohio.

Brother Martin Shively reports one accession at West Alexandria, O., and is in the midst of revival work at this place.

The meetings conducted by brother I. N. Miller, at La Paz, Ind., closed Nov. 24, with six accessions, two by relation, and one reclaimed and three applicants for baptism.

Prof. Beal will spend the festal day with his parents at Ankneytown, Ohio.

Brother Grisso, one of the Theos, preached at Buckeye City, Sabbath morning and evening.

Sister Mary W. Sayger informs us that twelve have been added to the church at Burns Chapel, Ind.

Brother Metcalf of Missouri, reports seven accessions, four by baptism, two by relation and one reclaimed.

A glorious meeting at Altoona, Pa., by brother E. E. Haskins, closed with twenty-three accessions, and two yet to be baptized.

The Misses Sadie and Lydia Berkley are taking the "little people" through a course of training for Christmas entertainment.

Prof. J. Allen Miller, leaves on Thursday for his home in Ind., where he expects to spend his vacation during the holidays.

Brother Darling a member of the Theological class spent Sabbath at Ankenytown and North Liberty, preaching the Word.

Brother H. M. Oberholtzer a Theo, preached a very practical sermon to the young people on Sabbath evening in the College chapel.

Brother T. J. Fahrney of Downsville, Md., writes: "Brother Long is preaching at this place (his home,) in the hall and we are having a glorious revival. So far, twenty accessions and one reclaimed. Twelve are young men and eight ladies. Full report later."

At his regular service, on Sabbath morning, Brother Rensch gave the usual invitation to which seven young people responded and gave their hearts to God. Among them, his own son. We imagine the joy that filled the heart of the pastor over this result of his labors.

On Sabbath morning our hearts were made glad when the pastor, Brother Miller, announced to the audience in the College chapel, that Prof. A. B. Gnagey, teacher of the Shorthand and Typewriting Department had made application to be received into fellowship with the Brethren of Ashland City church. Prof. Gnagey is a young man of ability, and we bespeak for him a life of usefulness in the fraternity of the Brethren.

The Son of God, the eternal King
That did us all salvation bring.

And freed the soul from danger,
He whom the whole world could not take,
The Word, which heaven and earth did make
Was now laid in a manger.

THE REAL GIVER.

A leaflet was put into circulation last winter which deserves careful thought. Its title is, Shall we Continue Santa Claus Worship? Its substance is an earnest plea, written by a foreigner, begging American parents to cease telling their children that it is Santa Claus to whom they owe their Christmas presents. The writer says that he was shocked on landing in this country a few weeks before Christmas to see the prominence given to this idea. It seemed to him little less than idolatry.

This is all very much too true. By the time this paper is in the hands of our readers children will be writing letters to Santa Claus asking for the gifts they desire, Sunday-schools will be practicing Christmas cantatas and entertainments in which probably Santa Claus will appear in person, there will be Santa Claus music—Santa Claus here and Santa Claus there—and the Christ Child, in memory of whose birth we celebrate the day, almost if not entirely forgotten. Not long ago a mother going into her nursery a few evenings before Christmas found her little boy on his knees before the chimney with clasped hands praying to Santa Claus to bring him a pony! And this was the carefully-instructed child of religious parents!

It is both true and beautiful to teach the little ones that the good gifts of Christmas come from the Lord Jesus, whose birthday it potentially is. It is beautiful to teach them to sing Christmas carols and rejoice that unto us this day was born a little Child who is the Saviour of us all. Any custom that shall keep this idea alive is a good one; the Christmas tree, the Christmas cake, the Yule log, Yule candles, Christmas greetings all point to Christ. Let us do away with the idea of Santa Claus as a part of our Christmas joy, and enthrone Jesus there instead.

The one supreme condition of Christian churches doing their work, says the eminent preacher, Dr. McLaren, is that they shall be clothed and filled with God's spirit. Do not let us rely on machinery; do not let us rely on externals; do not let us rely on advertising tricks, which might do very well for a cheap shop, but are all out of harmony with the work that we have to do; but let us rely on this, and on this alone.—*Religious Telescope*.

THE tone, temper and trend of some Church papers conclusively prove that the mission of the natural holiness movement, and of a distinctively holiness press is still greatly needed.